



JUNE 19-JULY 12
PLEASANT  N 26

2026 ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

ADULT COLLECTIONS, GEM & MINERAL, JEWELRY, & WOODCARVING ENTRY GUIDE

Entry Fee: \$2.50 per entry!

Click [HERE](#) to enter!

Entry Deadline: Wednesday, May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

For most categories. Please see the following page for details.

Each exhibitor who submits an image or entry for judging will receive an e-ticket (one per exhibitor regardless of the number of entries) good for one admission to the 2026 Alameda County Fair.

Tickets will be sent to the e-mail on file prior to the opening date of the fair.
Tickets are good for any day the Fair is open.

For Questions, please contact:

entries@alamedacountyfair.com

or call 925-426-7611 to leave a message



JUNE 19-JULY 12
PLEASANTON 26

2026 Adult Collections, Gem & Mineral, Jewelry, & Woodcarving Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16
			Entry Registration Deadline 5:00 p.m.			
May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23
			Final Hobby Collection Exhibitor Notification			
May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30
			DELIVER ENTRIES: (By Appointment 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)	DELIVER ENTRIES: (By Appointment 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)	DELIVER ENTRIES: 11:00 am to 7:00 pm	DELIVER ENTRIES: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
May 31	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6
June 7	June 8	June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13
June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20
					Opening Day	
June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27
	Fair Closed	Fair Closed				
June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4
	Fair Closed	Fair Closed				
July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	July 11
	Fair Closed	Fair Closed				
July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18
Last Day of Fair			Release of All Entries 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Release of All Entries 9:00 am to 1:00 pm		



Adult Collections, Gem & Mineral, Jewelry, & Woodcarving Department Rules

The submission of an entry constitutes agreement to these rules.

1. Eligibility:
 - a. The competition is for amateur adult residents of California.
 - b. Professional exhibitors (those who, within the entry category, have sold more than half of the items made in a year, taught classes for payment, or who are employed in the industry) must enter the Professional categories. Professionals receive ribbons but do not qualify for premiums.
 - c. With submission of entry registration, the exhibitor confirms their ability to deliver their entry to the fair on the posted delivery date(s) and time(s). Entry fees will not be refunded. Late entries will not be accepted.
2. Entries:
 - a. The Fair will provide an exhibit tag using the information provided during registration.
 - b. Exhibit tags will be printed as entered. Any changes to the entry title or category must be emailed prior to the posted registration deadline. Once the deadline has passed, no changes may be made to the title or category entered and the entry will be judged as entered.
 - c. On occasion, entries may be transferred to a different division or class by judges or fair staff. This may result in the exhibitor exceeding class limits, which may affect award eligibility.
3. Display, Handling, Presentation, & Release of Entries:
 - a. The Fair Association reserves the right to refuse any entry or refuse to display any entry considered not to be in the best interest of the Fair. No entry will be accepted where an exhibitor prescribes conditions under which they will exhibit. Once submitted, all exhibits are under the direct control of the Fair Association and cannot be removed until the specified release day.
 - b. Greatest care will be exercised in handling exhibits, but the Fair Management, Alameda County Fair Association, and the County of Alameda will not be held liable for loss, theft, or damage of any kind from any cause.
 - c. Upon submitting an entry for physical display at the Fair, the exhibitor agrees to pick up the entry after the fair on the posted release date. Failure to pick up the entry may affect selection for display at future Alameda County Fairs.
 - d. Any unclaimed entries or ribbons will be stored for one month after the closing date of the Fair. After that point, they will be discarded.
4. Judging & Awards:
 - a. Entries are judged using the American System of Judging where exhibits are judged against each other. One 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place may be awarded in each class. Honorable Mention may be awarded at the discretion of the judges. All 1st place winners in a division will compete against each other for the Best of Show. Judges may choose to omit any award that is believed to be without merit.
 - b. Qualified judges are selected by the Alameda County Fair. Judging decisions are final.
 - c. The Fair does not guarantee the payment of Sponsored special premiums and awards as they are secured in good faith.
5. How to Enter:
 - a. Review the Adult Collections, Gem & Mineral, Jewelry, & Woodcarving Department rules.
 - b. Go to: <https://alamed.fairwire.com/> and Register/Log-In.
 - c. Select the "Create Entries" option.
 - d. Choose the Department/Division/Class for each entry.
 - e. Enter the title (and description, if desired).
 - f. Complete payment of entry fees (entries are not accepted prior to payment of entry fees).
 - g. Refunds will not be issued for failure to deliver entries.
 - h. Entry Confirmation: Upon receipt of entry fees, an email confirmation will be sent. This will be your receipt for the entry fee.



Hobby Collections

Entry Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28

Deliver to Building O

(Appt. only 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, May 29 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delivery Location: Alameda County Fair Receiving Office

Located to the Left of the Stable Cafe

(Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue)

1. Entry Limit: 1 Per Exhibitor
 - a. Fair cases are limited. Entries are accepted on a space-available basis to ensure a balanced show.
 - b. While some elements may remain the same, collections must have significant changes from those previously displayed at the Fair.
 - c. Exhibitors who have been selected to display a collection will be contacted via email no later than the end of the day on Wednesday, May 20. Those not selected will be placed on a Wait List and contacted if space becomes available.
2. The Fair will provide cases and will lock each case with a fair-provided lock.
3. **Exhibitors who make an appointment on Wednesday, May 27 or Thursday, May 28 will deliver their entry directly to Building O. Exhibitors who deliver their entry on Friday, May 29 or Saturday, May 30 will check in at the ACF Receiving Office and be shuttled to Building O.**
4. Please neatly label items with name and something interesting and appropriate (age, source, etc.). Labels should be neat, legible, and accurate. Using a 14–16-point font (depending on style) typically makes labels easily readable. Tell the public something interesting about your hobby: why you collect or make it, what is unique, where to find more information, how you make it, etc. Encourage the public to study your case. **Judges will give preference to displays that are most educational.** Your name should not appear in the case. After judging is complete, fair staff will attach an exhibit tag with your name.
5. **Spray adhesives, rubber cement, and masking tape do not reliably hold. Please use permanent adhesive when possible to secure labels onto cardstock or mat board.**
6. Please do not place anything on the outside of the cases. No extra electricity may be added either inside or outside of the case. You may choose to supply battery powered additions. It is your responsibility to take out any staples and/or tape put in the case on tear down day.
7. Judging Standards: 5% Quality, 10% Education, 10% Labeling (correctness and spelling), 10% Explanation (How did you start your collection?), 15% Variety of Material, 50% Showmanship (total effect of background, lighting, arrangement, neatness, suitability).
8. Awards:
 - Cash Awards per Class: 1st Place: \$25, 2nd Place: \$20, 3rd Place: \$15
 - Public Favorite Case: “Don Wills Memorial” Plaque

Division 307 Hobby Collections

Class:	01	Animals	07	Superheroes, Villains, & Stars
	02	Household	08	Toys & Dolls
	03	Celebrations & Holidays	09	Travel
	04	History	10	Any Other Hobby Collection
	05	Disney	11	Celebrating 250 Years of America
	06	Sports		



Gem & Mineral

Entry Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28

Deliver to Building O

(Appt. only 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, May 29 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delivery Location: Alameda County Fair Receiving Office

Located to the Left of the Stable Cafe

(Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue)

1. Entry Limit: 1 Case Per Class.
2. **Exhibitors who make an appointment on Wednesday, May 27 or Thursday, May 28 will deliver their entry directly to Building O. Exhibitors who deliver their entry on Friday, May 29 or Saturday, May 30 will deliver their entry to the ACF Receiving Office.**
3. All exhibits must be correctly and adequately labeled.
4. The exhibitor must be the owner of the entries.
5. All lapidary work must be done by the exhibitor.
6. An entered exhibit may be displayed for only one year unless varied in some significant way.
7. Judging Standards: 5% Quality, 10% Education, 10% Labeling (correctness and spelling), 10% Explanation (How did you start your collection?), 15% Variety of Material, 50% Showmanship (total effect of background, lighting, arrangement, neatness, suitability).
8. Awards:
 - Cash Awards per Class: 1st Place: \$25, 2nd Place: \$20, 3rd Place: \$15

Division 304 Gem & Mineral

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|--------|----|---|
| Class: | 01 | Educational (Contains educational information) |
| | 02 | Any Other (Specimen Collection, Lapidary, etc.) |
| | 03 | Group or Society Case |



Jewelry

Entry Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28
 Deliver to Building O
 (Appt. only 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, May 29 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delivery Location: Alameda County Fair Receiving Office
 Located to the Left of the Stable Cafe
 (Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue)

1. Entry Limit: 3 Per Exhibitor.
2. **Exhibitors who make an appointment on Wednesday, May 27 or Thursday, May 28 will deliver their entry directly to Building O. Exhibitors who deliver their entry on Friday, May 29 or Saturday, May 30 will deliver their entry to the ACF Receiving Office.**
3. Composition of piece must contain a minimum of 50% beads in the overall design.
4. Entry must be at least 80% constructed and/or assembled by the exhibitor.
5. To qualify for any award, labeling must include type(s) of material(s), hours to assemble, name of the piece, and specify what materials/elements were made by the exhibitor.
6. Professional exhibitors (those who, within the entry category, have sold more than half of the items made in a year, taught classes for payment, or who are employed in the industry) must enter in the Professional categories. Professionals receive ribbons, and do not qualify for premiums.
7. Judging Standards: 5% Originality, 15% Quality of Materials, 20% Labeling, 30% Design, 30% Workmanship.
8. Awards:
 - Cash Awards per Class: 1st Place: \$12.00, 2nd Place: \$8.00, 3rd Place: \$4.00

Division 308 Adult, Amateur Jewelry

- Class: 01 Bead Stringing—Single or Multi
 02 Seed Bead—From Kit or Class
 03 Seed Bead—Original Work
 04 Wirework—With or Without Beads
 05 Any Other Jewelry

Division 309 Professional Jewelry

- Class: 01 Professional Jewelry



Woodcarving

Entry Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28

Deliver to Building O

(Appt. only 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, May 29 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delivery Location: Alameda County Fair Receiving Office

Located to the Left of the Stable Cafe

(Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue)

1. Entry Limit: 2 Per Class
2. **Exhibitors who make an appointment on Wednesday, May 27 or Thursday, May 28 will deliver their entry directly to Building O. Exhibitors who deliver their entry on Friday, May 29 or Saturday, May 30 will deliver their entry to the ACF Receiving Office.**
3. Exhibitor must complete the project within one year of the opening date of the Fair.
4. At time of entry, please include the title or subject and type of wood.
5. Woodcarvings must be less than 3 ½ feet long and weigh less than 50 pounds.
6. Exhibitors will carry their own wood carving into Building O.
7. Novice: Any Carver who has not won any blue ribbons.
Open: Any Carver who has won one or more of the following awards: Blue ribbon, Best of Show, Judge's Choice/Favorite, or Show Chairman's Choice.
8. Judging Standards: 50% Artistry (10% each of Artistic Impact, Utilization of Medium, Correctness, 3-Dimensional Feature, & Composition) and 50% Carving Skill (10% each of Degree of Difficulty, Technical Skill, Care in Execution, Finish, & Unity of Techniques).
9. Awards:
 - Cash Awards per Class: 1st Place: \$20.00, 2nd Place: \$10.00, 3rd Place: \$5.00

Division 305 Woodcarving (Novice)
Division 306 Woodcarving (Open)

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|--------|----|--|
| Class: | 01 | Animals |
| | 02 | Relief Carving |
| | 03 | Caricature |
| | 04 | Stylized |
| | 05 | Miscellaneous |
| | 06 | Group Display Case from Woodcarving Group or Guild |
| | 07 | Celebrating 250 Years of America |